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NITRATE-LADEN SHIP BLOWS UP

20 Killed, 250 Injured

Paris, July 28.—The Norwegian cargo vessel, the Ocean Liberty, which, according to Lloyds, London, was carrying nitrates, blew up in Brest Harbour this afternoon.

Twenty people were reported killed and 250 injured in the blaze that was set off by the Ocean Liberty blowing up.

The business quarter of the port was reported here to be in flames.

The Ocean Liberty, which had come from New York, was carrying nitrate of ammonia in her varied cargo of 2,500 tons.

A French Ministry of Transport official said: "At 2 p.m. C.T., a fire broke out in the 'Ocean Liberty', a foreign ship. Efforts to master the fire did not progress quickly enough, and the naval authorities at Brest decided to move the ship out of the harbour."

"Tugs began slowly to pull the ship along the quayside towards the open sea."

"At 4.30 p.m. GMT, as the ship was passing a gasometer, a big explosion took place."

"Since then we have been unable to obtain any further information." Officials from Paris are leaving for Brest tonight.

The Minister of Transport, M. Jules Moch, is expected to go to Brest tomorrow.

In order to stop the ship's fire which was threatening an arsenal, a French Navy ship fired shots into each side of the vessel to flood the hull.

FIRES START IN CITY

Fires were raging in Brest City tonight while rescuers searched for victims of the big explosion which, partly wrecked the port this afternoon. All available means of transport was being requisitioned in the neighbouring towns to remove the wounded.

An eye-witness of the explosion said that around midday, a loud explosion was heard and this was followed by huge clouds of smoke, orange in colour, rising over the harbour. Smoke came from the fifth dock of the harbour in the vicinity of the arsenal.

A Ministry of the Interior official roughly estimated the damage at 100,000,000 francs. This was considered "less serious" than at first feared, although the casualties are "rather high."

Communications with the port area were still difficult. Telephone lines were interrupted and rail traffic was being stopped at Landernau, 14 miles outside.

Official reports were reserved, but the latest news indicated that the disaster was the gravest ever to have taken place in peace time France.

The fire was reported tonight to be "under control and about to be extinguished."

The Ocean Liberty is owned by T.S. Bendixsen of Lillestrand, Norway. It was built in 1943 and has a tonnage of 7,170 tons.—Reuter.

FLEE INTO COUNTRY

Paris, July 28.—Reports from Brest said a freighter loaded with nitrates blew up in the harbour at 5.45 p.m. Paris time.

The ship, the Ocean Liberty, flying the Norwegian flag, caught fire this morning and was being towed out to deep water, reports said, when the explosion occurred.

Immediately after, all telephone and telegraph communication with Brest was cut and it was not possible to learn immediately the extent of damage or the number of lives lost. However, the AFP said eight dead were located in Ponchelet hospital at the port.

It was reported hundreds of town people were beginning to flee to the open country in fear of fire. They were moving by bicycle, on foot and in farm carts, since every automobile had been requisitioned.

What might have been another Texas City disaster was barely avoided by Admiral Rene Robert, maritime prefect, who had the ship towed from the dock and tried to sink it by gunfire, before the blast came.

Besides nitrates, the freighter also carried corn.—United Press.

London, July 28.—The explosion of a nitrate ship at Brest shook houses along the South England coast from Truro, Devon, to Penzance in Cornwall.

At Plymouth and Bodmin, people ran from their houses and a woman at Polperro described the rumbling noise "like thunder or gunfire, but far more terrifying than anything we heard during the war"—United Press.

RUHR COAL OUTPUT

Talks This Week

London, July 28.—The Anglo-American talks on Ruhr coal output—key problem in the way of reviving Germany's economy—are expected to get started by the end of this week, the State Department said today.

The talks, originally fixed for July 18, were postponed after Britain had formally asked the United States to broaden their scope to include other major problems felt to be linked with coal output.

Today, the State Department said that the agenda would be restricted to the problem of coal alone.

In London, there was no confirmation that the talks would begin this week; in fact there were suggestions made before the State Department announcement that such reports were premature.

According to the latest London information no definite date has been fixed nor was the final list of the British delegation available.

POINTS AT ISSUE

The impression prevails in London that the differences between the British and American policy have narrowed down appreciably—except on the vital question of Britain's share of the financial burden of the two zones.

Of other points at issue, the demand for replacing Ruhr control by Anglo-American or international control of the Ruhr mines' management seems to have receded from the centre of the picture, as it is not officially included in the American draft of the agenda for the Washington talks.

On the question of socialisation hopes for an agreement have risen since it was definitely learned that the State Department is not committed to General Clay's proposal for a five-year postponement.

But there has been no American response to Britain's desire to be relieved of a considerable part of her present half-share of bi-zonal deficit. This problem, still excluded from the Washington draft agenda, is urgent because it is linked with the general crisis of Britain's foreign exchange position and, like the latter, may bear no waiting until a different form of financial aid becomes available under the Marshall Plan of aid to Europe.

QUESTION OF CONTROL

The omission of the control issue from the present American draft agenda does not mean, of course, that ideas for change of control in the Ruhr have been abandoned in the United States, but it seems to imply that they are not regarded as the master-key to an improvement in the Ruhr.

On the issue of socialisation, too, opposition between the American and British high level policies appears to be less rigid than it had been supposed.

Enquiries have definitely shown that General Clay's proposal to postpone a decision over socialisation for five years did not originate from the State Department.—Reuter.

North Channel Conquered

Port Patrick, Scotland, July 28.—The North Channel, the 25 miles stretch between the Northern Ireland and the Scottish coast, has been conquered by man.

Fourteen and a quarter hours after entering the water at Donaghadee (County Down), Tom Blower, 33-year-old Nottingham swimmer, reached the Scottish coast about six miles north of Port Patrick.

This afternoon, the first person ever to have swum the English and North Channels.

Blower swam the 21-mile English Channel just ten years ago, but experts predicted that his attempt to master the 25-mile stretch between Northern Ireland and Scotland was bound to fail, because it was thought that the tides, off both coasts would beat human endurance.—Reuter.

HUTTON'S TEST CENTURY

England In Strong Position

Leeds, July 28.—Helped by a century by Len Hutton (Yorkshire)—his first against South Africa—and 75 by Cyril Washbrook, who between them scored 141 for the first wicket, England were 142 runs ahead on the first innings with three wickets still to fall at the end of the second day's play of the fourth Test match today.

The scores at the close of play were South Africa 175 and England 317 for seven wickets.

The partnership by England's opening pair was their highest in Test matches, beating by four runs their previous best against Australia at Adelaide last winter.

Hutton, though slow, seldom made a false stroke on a treacherous wicket during his four and a half hour innings, and hit eight fours.

Washbrook batted for three hours and sent the ball to the boundary ten times.

CREDITABLE SCORE

England's score was a creditable performance on a bowlers' wicket, which never became "sticky", as hoped by the South Africans, but still was very difficult for batsmen.

Hutton was run out in an unfortunate manner, slipping when he tried to regain the crease after starting for a run.

Edrich was not his usual enterprising self and skied the ball to cover, where Alan Melville made a catch after slipping.

Compton edged a leg-break to Mitchell at first slip, Barnett added a ball to Tuckett at extra cover, Cranston gave cover point an early catch and Yardley was out to a brilliant catch by Nourse just before the close.

In a bowling spell of four fours, broken only by the lunch and tea intervals, Howan's figures were 48 overs, 12 maidens, one wicket for 89 runs.

CLOSE OF PLAY

The scoreboard at the close of play read:

South Africans—1st Innings	175
England—	
Hutton, run out	100
Washbrook, b Mann	75
Edrich, c Melville, b Mann	42
Compton, c Mitchell, b Mann	30
Barnett, c Tuckett, b Rowan	6
Yardley, c Nourse, b Smith	36
Cranston, c Melville, b Mann	3
Evans, not out	6
Young, not out	9
Extras	18

317

(For 7 Wkts)

Bowling:	O	R	W
Tuckett	18	4	0
Howan (unrevoked)	12	4	0
Dawson	60	24	4
Smith	30	0	1
Rowan	40	12	1

—Reuter.

MERCURY UP IN PARIS

Paris, July 28.—The mercury shot up to 104 degrees Fahrenheit at the St. Maur Park Observatory today, beating the previous record of 101, recorded only twice since weather records were started at St. Maur in 1873.

As if to rub it in, the Weather Bureau reported, that El Golea, in the Central Sahara Desert, had a temperature of only 98.—United Press.

Moscow Trade Talks Break Down

NEXT MOVE UP TO RUSSIA

London, July 28.—Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, told the House of Commons today that he still hoped that Britain and Russia could conclude a trade agreement, but indicated that this country was not prepared to make further concessions.

He said the trade talks in Moscow finally broke down last week over the question of revised terms for repayment of the £100,000,000 credits extended by Britain since 1941 for civil supplies.

When Mr. W. Gallacher (Communist) asked Britain to make another special effort to reach an agreement for Anglo-Soviet trade, Sir Stafford answered enigmatically: "We are most anxious to reach a special effort should be made and we hope it will be made by the Soviet Government."

Sir Stafford disclosed that Harold Wilson, British Secretary for Overseas Trade, and Anastas Mikoyan, Soviet Foreign Trade Minister, signed an eleven-hour agreement on the price Britain would pay for Soviet wheat.

Official circles said the price agreed upon was then the current price on the Chicago free market—about US\$2.40 a bushel. Previously, Russia had adamantly insisted upon US\$2.00 and earlier reports blamed this in part for the breakdown in talks.

Official circles believed there would be no immediate attempts to resume trade talks despite the desire of both countries for agreement. They said a period of waiting for the other to make concessions on credit arrangements appeared likely.

Sir Stafford's reply to Mr. Gallacher clearly was an invitation to Russia to make the first gesture. Reports that the talks might be resumed soon through the resident Soviet trade delegation in Britain were doubted.

Outlining the five weeks of negotiations conducted by the Secretary for Overseas Trade, Sir Stafford said: "After several difficulties, we had succeeded in reaching an agreement on matters within the trade field, including quantities, prices and terms and conditions of shipment."

At Birmingham: Warwickshire 88 and 62 for two. Worcestershire 332 (Jenkins 54).

At Frome: Somerset 252 and 168 (Phillips five for 23). Lancashire 180 (Buss four for 29) and 14 for no wickets.

At Cardiff: Glamorgan 338 for eight declared, Sussex 126 (Muncer four for ten) and 168 for three (Parker 44, Oakes 42 not out).

At Bathurst: Derbyshire beat Northamptonshire by seven wickets. Northants 140 and 75 (Gladwin eight for 26). Derbyshire 124 and 101 for three.—Reuter.

FOOD FOR U.S. OLYMPIANS

New York, July 29.—Avery Brundage, President of the American Olympic Association, has recommended to the United States Olympic Committee that all food for American contestants in next Summer's Olympic games in London be sent from the United States.

"I strongly advise a food of all sorts, in other words, the complete menu for American contestants in a full measure, be sent to London, to arrive in ample time for the use of the contestants and staff to be placed in cold storage," he told a meeting of the Association on Monday.

After formally approving American participation in the 1948 Olympic games in London, the Association sought to throw its full weight behind the bid of a single American city for the 1956 games.

Five American cities sought the 1952 games which were awarded to Helsinki. Brundage said: "If we want to obtain the games for the United States we will have to back one city."

The Association decided to have competing cities submit their cases to the Association which would then decide on a single American candidate.

The recommendation said: "The food to be shipped and used, fruit, juices and beverages including milk as well as meats, vegetables and cereals, should be ample in amount and of course selected for those menus suitable for, and liked by, Americans in training."—Associated Press.

Indonesia Situation

Street Fighting In Bandung

Dispute To Be Put Before UNO

Batavia, July 28.—Indonesian army headquarters announced tonight that 763 Dutch soldiers had surrendered with all their weapons in west Java.

Street fighting was raging in Bandung city, about 70 miles from Batavia, the Dutch capital, according to a communiqué issued in Djakarta tonight at the end of the eighth day of the fighting.

The communiqué also claimed the recapture of Tjiparaj, 12 miles southeast of Bandung.

The British-owned 500,000 acre Anglo-Dutch Plantation Company of west Java has suffered damage estimated at about £2,000,000 as a result of the Indonesian "scorched earth" tactics, according to reports reaching Dutch headquarters.

The Indonesian Republicans claimed tonight, as the fighting entered its second week, that 400 Dutch were killed or wounded in an Indonesian mass attack on Modjokerto, near the big east Java port of Sourabaya.

The claim was made by the Indonesian news agency, Antara, on the basis of reports now available of the action, which was fought last Wednesday.

COUNTER-CLAIMS

Dutch and Indonesian today claimed successes in both Java and Sumatra. Important claims made by the Dutch in communiques—a Batavia report said—were the capture of a coal-mine at Bukit Asen, south Sumatra, said to be the biggest open-cast mine in the Indies, and a railway workshop at Lahat, largest in Sumatra—where the Republicans were said to have manufactured rifles.—Sten and Tommy news.

The Dutch communiqué also claimed that the occupation of Sumatra's southern Dutch-British American oilfields has been consolidated. In Java, the Dutch claimed to have occupied Pengalengan, inland town about 20 miles south of Bandung, rail centre in the west of the island.

A Republican communiqué claimed that Dutch paratroops who landed at Lamudjang, near Bandung yesterday, had been partly "exterminated." The scene of this reported action is near the pre-war Dutch radio station at Mulabar, which was earlier reported to have been destroyed by retreating Republican troops.

ATTACK REPULSED

The repulse of a Dutch attack by 800 infantry supported armoured cars was claimed by the Republicans, who said that this action occurred when the Dutch assaulted Dwarablangdang in the Modjokerto sector, southwest of Sourabaya, and the retreating Dutch were pursued by the Republicans.

(Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Clean Up Kowloon!

It is to be hoped that not only the Authorities, but the Kowloon Residents' Association have taken notice of the growing complaints of nuisances which are making life hideous for those who live in some of Kowloon's best residential districts.

What were once attractive flats and houses in pleasantly quiet surroundings have very largely become shabby hovels, and the haunts of roving and inconsiderate mad dogs.

It is a pity that the streets have been turned into nightmares by hawkers who variously, scream, shout or wall their wares until the early hours of the morning.

Another headache is the itinerant hawk who disturbs all residential districts with his raucous and unmusical caterwauling. He hawks before dawnbreak and continues through to midnight. His voice is a merciless attack on protesting cardrums, and no Town Crier could more effectively arouse a neighbourhood from its slumbers.

In his recommendations, the advisory committee on hawkers pleaded a case for the retention of itinerant peddlers, and so long as they confine their trading to normal hours, there can be no

reasonable objection to them. But neither the itinerants, nor the hordes of stallholders who park themselves in some of the residential streets should be permitted to disturb the peace. Excessive daytime street noises in Hongkong are now regarded as inevitable, though for office workers in the city, that makes them no less tiresome on the nerves. Nevertheless, they are bearable, and the outlying areas occasionally welcome, for now and then an itinerant hawk has an article for sale to obtain which the housewife or man might otherwise have to take a long bus trip into town.

Incidents, however, must be given protection from disturbing and unnecessary noise during sleeping hours; they must also be protected from the incursions of brooms masquerading under the guise of respectable flats.

A vigorous police drive to clean up some of Kowloon's worst spots is overdue. The Landlord and Tenant Ordinance provides for the eviction of tenants using premises for immoral purposes, and this order should be strictly enforced in conjunction with a police "clean-up" campaign.

Thereafter only approved residents should be permitted to tenant the vacant flats.

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"GENTLEMAN JIM"

Clive Street still looking for Sahibs

By SYDNEY SMITH

THEY are asking for more sahibs in Clive-street, Calcutta.

While the British administrators, political agents and soldiers are quitting the India united by Clive, the British businessmen of the second city of the Empire, the men of Clive-street, have decided to stay on in the India split by the conflict of Nehru and Jinnah.

They refuse to be ruffled by the birth pangs of the two new Indian Dominions. But they are perturbed, they tell me, by the lack of sahibs needed to replace the wartime wastage, and to replace the older men now due for retirement.

Clive-street is not a god-looking street. In parts it smells, and not just of money. It is Leadenhall-street and Mincing-lane with a dash of the Caledonian Market and a cow pasture.

Beating up against the great brass-plated and pillared portals of its ultra-modern granite and concrete buildings is an Asiatic flood of squatting pavement hawkers, scabrous beggars, piratical looking coolies and drowsy, holy Brahmin cows.

Among them scurry the Indian businessmen, who carry umbrellas, but whose bare feet and cotton dhotis belie the size of their bank balances.

The cows occupy most of the pavement just outside the great doors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China. Millionaires cannot move them—and there are 25 who work in Clive-street.

On the outside

THE cows won that stretch of pavement from the first members of the Calcutta Stock Exchange who gathered there to bid 90 years ago. Walking carefully over the cows and the slippery orange splashes of betelnut-chew staining the pavement, you can buy anything from combs, unworkable fountain-pens and bug powder to freshly peeled pine-apple and cool coconut milk.

At the end of the street an Indian traffic policeman stands under a sun-shade on what they say was once the site of the Black Hole of Calcutta. The memorial there was taken away a little more than ten years ago because it offended the Indians, who disbelieve the whole story.

Between the two pavements of Clive-street, where the rickshaws and rattling old taxis run, there are parked every day three lines of businessmen's motor cars. They are the

brightest, biggest, and best that money can import, and two-thirds of them British.

That is Clive-street from the outside, a shrill and noisy daub, blended from the East and the West. It does not look too rich to count its millions.

On the inside

BEHIND the Clive-street doors, the Calcutta Income tax authorities say, work 100 Indian and British businessmen with incomes of between £35,000 and £70,000 a year, and 1,000 others whose incomes are from £2,000 to £35,000 a year.

Altogether there are 2,500 British businessmen working in and around Clive-street, and not one of them, from the most junior clerk upwards, earns less than £15 a week.



The cows won

They work in offices from which the stench and noise of the pavement, and these immortal and divine-cows might well be a thousand miles away. Marble floors and teak panelling on the walls.

From the gilt carved frames on the walls the founders of Clive-street's millions—the first sahibs, half soldiers, half businessmen—look airily down from the past with pompous complacency.

For the juniors in these offices scores of ceiling fans stir the thick hot air. For the bigger executives the latest American-built air conditioners, humming discreetly, transform the air.

The biggest business in Clive-street is done by the British managing agencies, firms which manage and hold shares in nearly every jute mill, tea garden, coal mine, iron foundry, machine works and shipping company in North India. For their management they employ about 5,000 Englishmen.

The first dozen British managing agencies in Clive-street run, and partly staff with Britons, companies with a capital value of more than £600,000,000. They own about £30,000,000 of the total shares. The rest is Indian.

Twenty years ago Clive-street was head of the politicians in acceptance of the growing force of Indian nationalism. It began right then weaving Indian interests and Indian control into its affairs.

Today British interests have a 60 per cent control of Calcutta's trade,

the Indians 40 per cent. That is reason number one why British business could not quit India even if it or the Indians wished. They are both too closely involved.

Indians know, and frankly explain that the British presence means their mills, foundries and mines are managing in a way which is above moral or economic reproach. British technicians are irreplaceable.

For us, you and me, British control means that orders for spares and replacement of machinery, and material for the industrialisation of India, will continue to come to Britain.

In spite of Indian Government export quotas and increasing import licences to restrict imports to those things which India cannot yet make herself, Clive-street sees a minor boom which will not be scotched on the boundaries of Hindustan and Pakistan.

In the last year five per cent of the British-owned tea gardens have been sold, because Indians, glutted with wartime profits, were offering five times their prewar value. The British who sold out will be able to buy back at half the price in another five years.

Fortresses

WHEN the Calcutta city man drives home at five o'clock it is only to stay long enough for a bath and a change before going to "The Club," which means any one of a dozen elegant, cool buildings where barefooted, turbaned servants bring him his burra peg—double Scotch.

These clubs, these fortresses, are as unshaken by impending changes as Clive-street. The exclusive Saturday Club, where no Indian has ever been a member or a guest, is staying exclusive, with a rosy future of a three-year-long British waiting list for permanent membership.

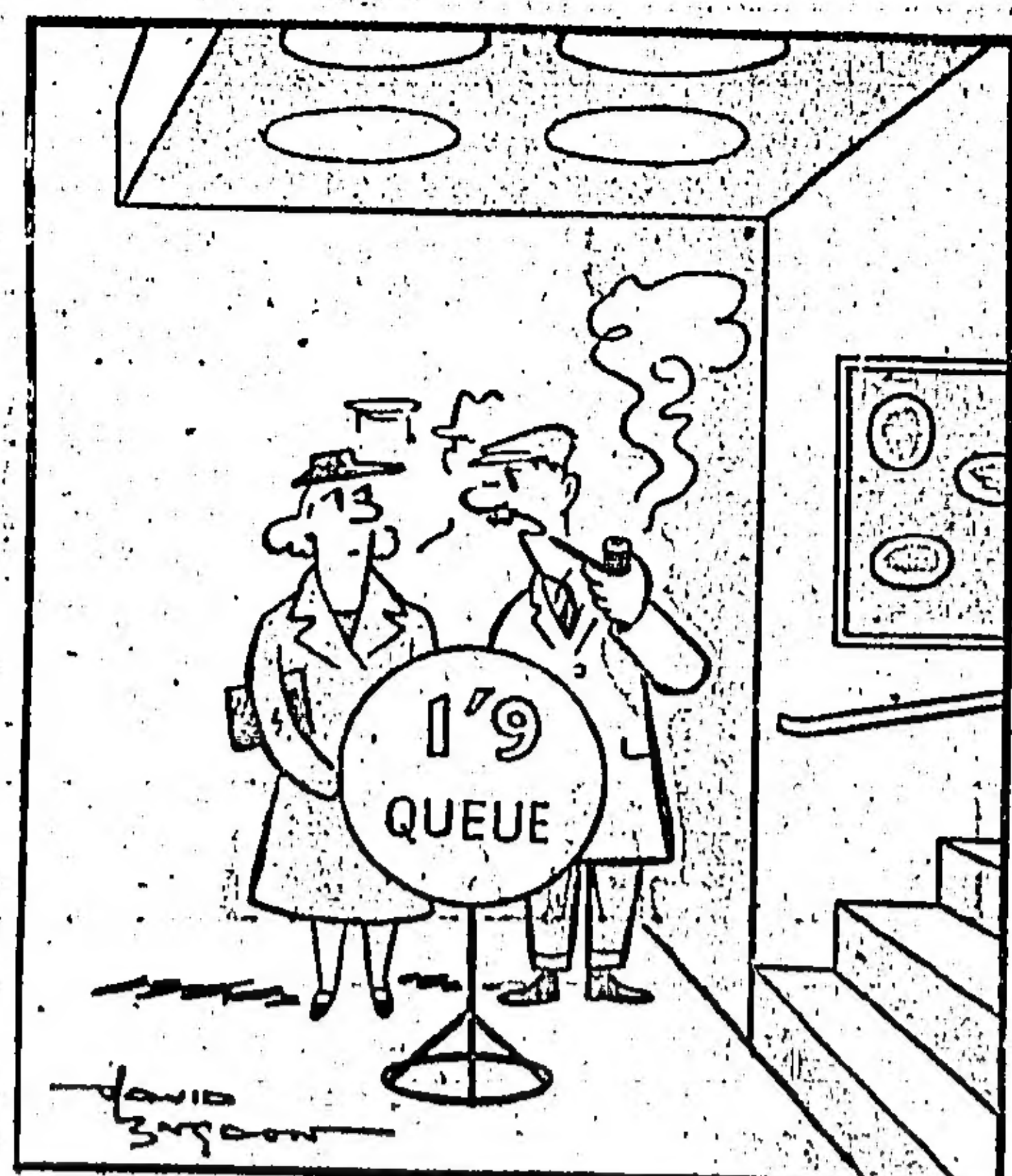
That is the Calcutta which is asking for new young British blood. It is getting it fast already, but still not fast enough, though recruitment is double the prewar figure. Ages of recruits have risen from 21 to 30, minimum starting pay for an unqualified man of the "right type" is £15 a week. A provident fund will guarantee that even if he does not reach the big jobs he can retire in 30 years on £1,000 a year.

Sahibs only

WHO is this "right type"? I heard all about him, I must admit, over several chota pegs in a club. My informant was a big executive, a typical traditional bronzed Imperial type in an immaculate tropical suit, a man controlling £40,000,000 worth of British and Indian interests in Bengal.

He said: "Of course we want technicians, men with agricultural training, accountants, engineers of all types. But we are taking untrained, unqualified men, too. Men with good school or good Army records."

And solemnly he added: "What we want are sahibs." It sounded for a moment like a cynical joke or a cry from the past. But it was neither. It is the slogan for the future of Clive-street, Calcutta.



"I shall puff away at me Empire tobacco all through American films, on principle."

In Japan today Britain very much in the shade

By a Special Correspondent in Tokyo

DO not run away with the idea that General MacArthur is loosening his iron grip on Japan.

Though he has sanctioned the re-opening, next month, of private trade between Japan and the Allied nations, Japan is very much an American colony.

Poker-faced, uncommunicative MacArthur intends, so far as can be seen, to keep it that way. For how long?

The Japs themselves would especially like to know. They don't tell the Europeans anything as they go about their business with that anti-like industry, that inscrutable docility. But one can sense their thoughts.

The Russians would also like very much to know.

That, however, is another and a very important story. What is life like in conquered Japan?

American influence is obvious everywhere. It is shrill and strident. The impact which it has had on Japanese life has to be seen to be realised.

NO SLACKERS

Almost the first thing the visitor is impressed by is the eager activity of the people. From dawn to dusk, seven days a week, they work with a will. There are no slackers. Forty-hour weeks are unknown.

This acceptance of the gospel of work is the thing that will ultimately save Japan. It will also give many a headache to the victorious nations, America included.

Just look what they have done already to Hiroshima.

Thin smoke pours from thousands of chimneys and roof-holes. The town seethes with industry. There are shops and restaurants and places of entertainment.

Hard, indeed, to believe that little more than a year ago it was a city of the dead, ruined and torn beyond recognition.

Democracy's chances of survival in the new Japan are difficult to assess, because the big industrial cabal still has a couple of fingers on the reins and will pick them up when MacArthur lets go.

One thing, at all events, is certain, and it is that the Japs would rather have democracy than its only alternative—Communism.

The ideals and policies of the Kremlin are as big a bogey to the industrial plutocrats as they are to the Americans.

The ordinary Jap-in-the-street is slowly swinging to the left, but it is a democratic left. The 7,000,000 Christians in the country are, of course, a big lever in democratic progress.

There are many industrial advisory bodies active, nearly all of them American. British and other Allied business men are conspicuous by their absence.

All the undamaged factories are going full blast where raw materials are available. Many others are being rebuilt.

But in spite of this the official figure of Japan's jobless is given as 700,000, with another 200,000 engaged in unscheduled enterprises which include "black" market activities.

KIMONO GOING

One looks in vain for the old blaze of colour in the post-war streets of the Jap cities. Silk rationing of the most stringent kind has changed the dress of the women. The kimono is going completely as a day-to-day garment.

Japan's silk, like many of Britain's foremost products, goes overseas as export. Overseas, that is, to America.

Shouked by the Russians of what was looked to be a big chance in China, the Americans are determined to get all they can in Japan, including her vital base.

Where does Britain come in? Well, the word Allied is seldom heard in MacArthur's kingdom.

Allied books, papers, and magazines are difficult to get in Japan, although the "Pro-American-Anti-All-Others" Reader's Digest sells 300,000 copies per issue. The Saturday Evening Post and Life are easily obtainable.

The Japanese Prime Minister complains that he cannot get a regular copy of the Times. The Daily Express comes only by post.

COLOURFUL DRILL

Almost the one, but assuredly a most effective, piece of British propaganda is the colourful guard drill outside the British Embassy and occasionally at the gates of the palace. British and Empire troops vie with each other in machine-like precision and discipline.

Gasps of admiration go up from the onlookers as they see, shall we say, a regimental go! in gleaming brass collar and snowy pipe-clayed breeches take an integral part in this pomp and pageantry so peculiarly British and so perfectly executed.

The yen is worth 40 in English currency. The American soldier is paid in dollars converted into scrip which he may spend at his glamoress—Nagasaki.

That is the official order, but a dollar bill fetches 50/60 yen in the black market, which means that the U.S. dollar of pay will buy as much as one English pound.

This discrepancy in pay has the British soldier very "bad", and he cannot be blamed if he growls.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

THE worst (or the best) of criticising the ballet seriously is that it is so difficult to avoid a phrase here and there that may send the normal man into howls of laughter.

For instance, I have been reading a criticism in which I suddenly came on these words: "...the dancers seemed to get in each other's way a good deal." What fun! Can't you see them bumping and shoving, and whispering "Push up there, you oaf! Get away!" Then the criticism goes on to talk of a choreography which "tends to make use of extravagant lifts and movements that are apt to look more ingenious than beautiful."

So narrow is the gulf between the contortionist or the wrestler and the ballet-dancer.

Anthology of Huntingdonshire cabmen

IT can hardly be claimed for the newly published "Anthology of Huntingdonshire Cabmen" that it is, in the words of an over-enthusiastic literature critic, "a masterpiece of imaginative literature."

The more striking names (with initials) from each of three volumes. It is a factual and unemphatic work, and the compiler has skinned the cream from the lists. Here are such old favourites as Whackfast, E. W. Forster, S. and Nurthers, P. L. The index is accurate, and the introduction by Cobman Spinner is brief and workmanlike.

Song

"I'll meet again," the lonely cobbler cried,
"Nor will I sit and muse upon the past."
"No mutor ultra, crepidam," replied

A friend who happened to be by his side.

"Let not the cobbler go beyond his last."

In passing

READING of a singer who "had a tendency to drown the accompaniment" I recall the old tradition in Seyreuth. Young accompanists were driven into a public bath, and the shalshes were drowned and the rest given away to friends.

Commercial course

(Lesson 1.)

"Success attends the daring," is a maxim often heard. But convention must be guarded. Though youth abhors the word, it is foolish to begin.

With your shirt outside your waistcoat, And your braces next your skin.

NANCY Fair Warning



By Ernie Bushmiller



When You Feel Tired and Restless

Ask For

ELLIOTTS

TONIC

On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Joan Caulfield for Lois Leeds.

Make of your hair a Beauty Headline

HAIR CARE

Now that you are going hatless your hair must be beautiful. Here are some simple hair rules. I have told you how to style your hair—but it must be healthy hair. Comb and brush your hair to free it of tangles and particles of dirt.

Place a little ointment on your fingertips. Place the thumbs at the back of the head, and with the fingertips, "dig" deep into the scalp; lift and massage. Keep up this deep massage for at least five minutes, then rest. Now place thumbs behind the ear and massage the scalp as before, for five minutes. Your scalp will tingle with increased circulation. Follow this massage with a good brushing. After each stroke with the brush wipe it on a rough towel so that each brush stroke is a clean stroke.

A centre-part demands a flawlessly clean scalp. If you wear a halo that features a centre-part, concentrate on scalp cleanliness. To keep hair and scalp shiningly clean, try shampooing with a liquid shampoo. Your scalp and part will be not only clean but healthy and full of lustrous beauty.

Your hair is your chief aid in changing your appearance. You may suit your own whimsies as well as those of fashion. Before you

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE



Get ready now to find your "place in the sun"! Here is the formula for a homemade protective lotion. One cup of Olive Oil, one cup of vinegar, one teaspoonful of iodine. Blend well. You can, if you like, add black tea instead of the iodine. Use this lotion at frequent intervals while out in the sun.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Instead of spending so much fixing this old car, we ought to buy a new one—then we could save enough to buy some new clothes and look like somebody!"

Another Epic Of The Back Room Boys

Behind the presentation of a portrait in oils to Colonel Samuel Bassett, CBE, Royal Marines, which took place at the Royal College of Art on July 10, lies one of the most colourful war stories of Britain's "back room boys."

The portrait, painted by Mr Edmond Nelson, who is exhibiting in this year's Royal Academy, was presented to Colonel Bassett by Major-General C. R. W. Lamplough, C.B.E., D.S.C., wartime Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence, who now commands the Royal Marines at Plymouth, deputising for Viscount Mountbatten, former Chief of Combined Operations.

85 BLOOD DONORS SAVED HER LIFE

A 36-year-old woman, Mrs Georgina Naylor, of Liverpool, has been kept alive for two years through receiving the blood of 85 voluntary donors.

Today she is fit and well. In May, 1944, Mrs Naylor, who was suffering from aplastic anaemia, was given a month to live, and her husband received special leave from his Army unit, then in Holland so as to be with her.

But a doctor in Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, where she lay dying, refused to surrender her life. To replace the vital red blood cells which her own bone marrow could not produce, repeated blood transfusions were given and kept her alive. After each transfusion she felt renewed life in her veins, but a fresh supply of blood quickly became necessary to prolong her life.

Fortunately sufficient donors responded to the calls made on them and ample blood was made available during these two years by the Ministry of Health's Regional Transfusion Centre at Liverpool. If there had been a break in the transfusions Mrs Naylor would certainly not be alive today.

Repeated examinations of Mrs Naylor's blood after the last transfusion have shown that her bone marrow has recovered its function of turning out red blood cells.

In Britain, this treatment for severe cases of anaemia is one of the new uses of blood transfusion, and instances where the blood of 20 to 30 donors is needed are becoming increasingly frequent. It is one of many reasons why as much blood as is being used by Britain's hospitals today as in wartime.

Bishop Does His Rounds

Dr John William Charles Wand, the Bishop of London, has revived the old custom of a clergyman visiting the parishioners—with this difference, he is calling not on individual church members but upon his 600 parishes. It will take some months for him to get around.

He started out recently in a procession by the Coldstream Guards, whose trumpeters sounded fanfares to attract crowds to the sunny front of St Botolph's Church in Bishopsgate.

Standing on the church steps, the Bishop chatted with all who came along, asking the vicar, altar boy and bellringer about their problems. Some of the wealthier St Botolph members gave him £2,000 to rebuild bombed churches.

Expressing regret that there were too few clergymen in Britain today to keep in touch with each parishioner, he said he hoped the condition would be corrected in the future.—Associated Press.

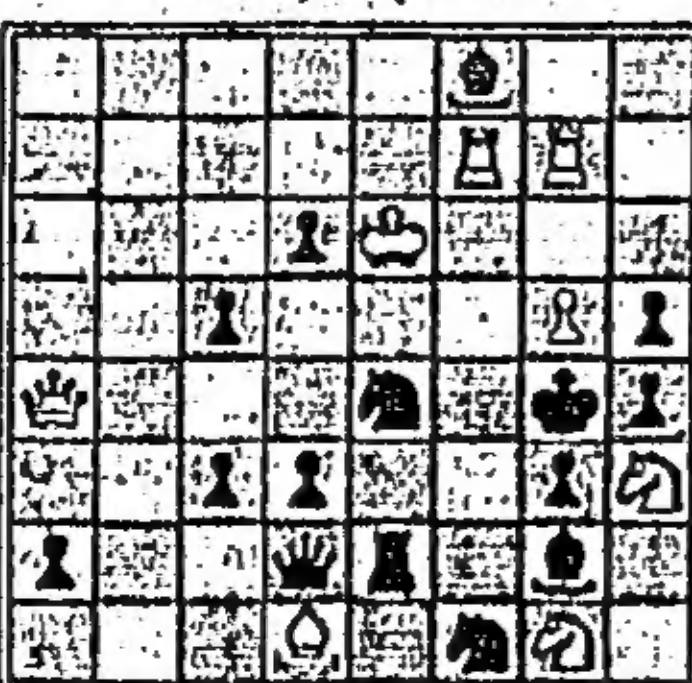
TO TEST ORIGIN OF ATOLLS

One outcome of the Bikini atomic bomb test may be to prove whether the Charles Darwin theory of the origin of an atoll is right.

Despatches received by the U.S. Navy from a scientific party making a one-year survey of old drilling operations by the U.S. Geological Survey and the Navy designed to establish definitely how the atolls develop.

Darwin advanced the theory that coral atolls are formed by coral growing upon reefs around a slowly sinking island. Since his time geologists have argued on the pros and cons.—Associated Press.

CHESS PROBLEM

By A. WEBER
Black, 15 pieces.

White to play and mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. B. Q.7, any; 2. Q. K (dis ch); B. or R. mates.

Colonel Bassett joined forces with a hydrographic surveyor and an Oxford don in 1940 to set up, on instructions from the Chiefs of Staff, a central inter-services organisation within the Admiralty to collect and collate topographical information about enemy-held territory, needed to plan combined operations raids, and later, the major operations of the war.

The organisation got to work by answering spot requests, such as supplying information for the bombing of the Dortmund-Ems canal or for the evacuation of troops from France, or searching for the Port of Terlan, subsequently covered to be a corruption of the term "inter alia".

It was not long before this nucleus organisation was expanded to include Army and RAF officers, and accommodation was found outside the Admiralty—in the North London, where it was promptly named "Inter alia".

It was not long before this nucleus organisation was expanded to include Army and RAF officers, and accommodation was found outside the Admiralty—in the North London, where it was promptly named "Inter alia".

Photos From Public

The Department, which had been styled the Inter-Services Topographical Department, produced books which were called the Inter-Services Intelligence Summaries and its work grew until, just before "D" Day, its staff was well over 1,000 and consisted of Navy, Army, RAF, WINS, A.S., WAAF, American WAC, Norwegian WRNS, American, Norwegian, Dutch, Belgian and French officers, other ranks and civilians. It had branches in Washington, SEAC and Australia.

A large proportion of the civilian staff were geographers, geologists, soil scientists, etc., and the department was housed in several Colleges in Oxford.

The public will recall broadcast appeals for photographs which it can now be disclosed were for the use of this Inter-Services Topographical Department. Over 9,000,000 photographs were offered and a very large proportion of these were accepted and copied.

Local Knowledge

In the period immediately prior to "D" Day the photographic reproduction unit of the Department was producing over 20,000 photographs every 24 hours.

One item alone, in connection with the D-Day landings required a million and a quarter photographs or 720 miles of photographic paper.

One large section of the Department dealt with the collection and classification of persons of local knowledge. Many people gave information and some have wondered what it was all about.

One lady who considered her time had been completely wasted because all she was asked was information about the facilities for children's bathing at a certain beach, would be surprised to know what her information about her children's bathing wore rope soled shoes at certain states of the tide because of the oozing mud, made a success of a Commandos raid which might easily have been a complete failure.

The man who remembered that he had as a boy dug out for fires on the beaches of Normandy little realised what a problem he gave to our geologists and eventually to our planners.

Rupert and the Young Imp—30



Rupert gets up and explains his idea to the young imp. "These Imps of Spring are so annoying because everything you've done so far has been just mischief. Is you could only do a good turn to somebody they might be pleased with you and let you off." "I never thought of that," says the little creature. "What good turn can I do?" "Rupert gazes across to the village and gives a start. 'Do you see that house?' he cries. 'That's the very place for you. Come on let's run over there.' ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

CROSSWORD



1. Light or dark it's not heavy. (8)
2. Of course, "Random walk." (6)
3. Following cross letter you may have been seen through. (6)
4. Clerical. (4)
5. Order letters by authority. (6)
6. The treating of bones. (6)
7. What "Action" bus conductors usually have done. (7)
8. What you may expect to find in Mrs. (6)
9. The end of Candide. (8)
10. A. (4)
11. A. (4)
12. A. (4)
13. A. (4)
14. A. (4)
15. A. (4)
16. A. (4)
17. A. (4)
18. A. (4)
19. A. (4)
20. A. (4)

Across:
1. and 2. Down. Ten sixty six. (6)
3. The word "out" into words. (6)
4. It's supposed to be a healthy. (6)
5. Not at all beautiful. (6)
6. What you may expect to find in Mrs. (6)
7. A. (4)
8. A. (4)
9. A. (4)
10. A. (4)
11. A. (4)
12. A. (4)
13. A. (4)
14. A. (4)
15. A. (4)
16. A. (4)
17. A. (4)
18. A. (4)
19. A. (4)
20. A. (4)



SHORTAGES HIT JUNGLE MEDICINE

Johannesburg.—Elephant hearts are short in supply. One must deal in the black market to get locust legs. However, cuttlefish powder and seal blubber, considered excellent remedies for bleeding noses, are plentiful.

That is a report by wholesale dealers in South Africa's native medicines. Their average business day yields them each amounts up to £300—but they say they now are faced by postwar shortages in many ingredients. Like elephant hearts, other herbs are also hard to get today.

Elephant hearts, when grated, burnt and inhaled before retelling, are reputed to assure sleepers that they will have no nightmares. Locust legs—considered essential in the brewing of the best native beer—once sold for fourpence a tin, but today they are sold only on the black market at much above the controlled price.

Herbal Remedies

However, one still can buy 30 different kinds of wild animal fat at two shillings mincepence a bottle. Some 800 herbal remedies also are available. Hippopotamus fat is the most popular, followed by the fats of the crocodile, python, lizard and whale.

Powdered snake bones are considered a sure cure for backaches, but there are no native remedies for tuberculosis and diabetes. They are considered white men's diseases. All wholesale houses hire qualified analytical chemists to make sure that none of the medicines sold are poisonous.—Associated Press.

War-deafened Veterans

War-deafened veterans of the Royal Air Force lead an almost normal life again, because of a highly-developed programme of the Service's medical rehabilitation programme.

Cost of treating ex-pilots and crewmen who lost their hearing by exposure to noise, by weather conditions, injuries to their ears as a result of flying and by disease or infection, is being borne by the Air Ministry or the Ministry of Pensions.

Every case gets a thorough examination that includes complete hearing tests and individual lip-reading instruction. Hearing aids are supplied after tests and batteries are supplied at intervals, free of cost.

Many treated veterans join the "hearing clubs," where lip-reading classes are held, where they can practise the art with fellow sufferers. The rehabilitation scheme has operated for about eight months with marked success.—Associated Press.

SHOWING TO-DAY **KINGS** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15, 9.15. AIR-CONDITIONED



GREER GARSON and GREGORY PECK

The Valley of Decision

with Donald CRISP • Lionel BARRYMORE • Preston FOSTER • Marsha HUNT • GLADYS COOPER • REGINALD OWEN • DAN DURYEA • JESSICA TANDY • BARBARA EVEREST • MARSHALL THOMPSON

Screen Play by John Meehan and Sonya Levien • Based on the Novel by Morda Davenport Directed by TAY GARNETT • Produced by EDWIN H. KNOPP • An M-G-M Picture

ALSO LATEST METRO-NEWS

"Princess Elizabeth To Wed Lt. Philip Mountbatten," "Jap War Criminals Executed," "Cairo-Palestine Train Blown Up," "President Auriol Roaches Dakar," "Dutch Police Fight Smugglers," Etc. Etc.

TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m. TO-MORROW

BY POPULAR DEMAND! ENTIRE NEW PRINT!



THREE OF BAD MEN

in Magic Technicolor! CONRAD VEIDT • SABU • JUNE DUPREZ • John Justin • Rex Ingram • Mary Morris

ALHAMBRA

NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE SUPERB MUSICAL SCORE IN THIS PICTURE IS THE WARSAW CONCERTO

DON'T MISS IT!



MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

"THE CANTERVILLE GHOST"

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayor Picture

Next Change: "DEAD OF NIGHT"

NEW HUNT FOR FOSSIL FISH

A South African marine scientific expedition to hunt for fossil fish is to be organized, says the South African Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The expedition will try to find more specimens of the rare coelacanth fish, caught off South Africa in 1938 and now exhibited in the East London Museum. Fish of this type were thought to have been extinct 50,000,000 years ago. When one was captured in a trawling net, the event caused world-wide sensation in scientific circles.—Associated Press.

Mercy Killings Approved

London, July 28.—The Daily Express reported today that two out of every three persons questioned in the newspaper's public opinion poll approved the legalisation of mercy killings for persons suffering from painful incurable diseases.

Seventy percent of the men favoured a method known as voluntary euthanasia, compared with 62 percent of the women. The ages of the persons questioned were not given. —United Press.

Joint Plan To Study Balkans

Lake Success, July 28.—The United States, Britain and Greece have agreed tentatively on three emergency steps to keep the Balkans crisis before the United Nations if Russia vetoes the present American proposals for a long-range United Nations Balkans Commission. It was learned today.

It is said that the first step would be for the United States to reopen the debate immediately in the Security Council under the punitive section of the United Nations Charter, thus officially branding the Balkans crisis a threat to peace.

If Russia vetoes this action, British, American and Greek officials would proceed with plans to establish a commission in Greece outside the United Nations to watch for signs of meddling from Greece's Communist-dominated northern neighbours.

Acre Culprits To Be Hanged

Jerusalem, July 28.—The British authorities announced officially today that the three members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi organisation condemned to death for the attack on Acre Prison in May would be hanged tomorrow morning.

The Irgun's clandestine radio to-night threatened: "We shall carry out the hangings of the two hostages at the same time our own comrades are executed."

The radio reiterated earlier threats of a bloodbath in retribution. Grocery shops in Tel Aviv today remained open as the panic-stricken population rushed to buy food reserves in preparation for martial law.

The Jewish Agency has submitted protests against the hangings to the High Commissioner.—United Press.

Derevyanko To Return Home

Tokyo, July 28.—Informed sources said today that Lieutenant-General Kuzma Derevyanko, Soviet representative on the Allied Council for Japan, would return to Moscow soon. The Russian mission here would have only a letter had been sent to the Council Secretariat and that any announcement would have to come from that source. The Secretariat said no letter had yet been received.

There is speculation that Derevyanko is being recalled for consultation on the United States proposal for an early peace with Japan.

His chief deputy here is Major-General Kislenko.—Associated Press.

Souvenir Hunters?

London, July 28.—The Commons Kitchen Committee reported today that 2,250 pieces of silverware and dishes disappeared from the refreshment rooms, and kitchen at the House of Commons in the period from July 1, 1945, to December 31, 1946.

Mission Ship Sails

Boston, July 28.—The two-masted schooner "Morning Star VI", flying a Christian flag, left today for a mission to bring the word of God to natives in the south-east.

Sponsored by the Congregational American Board of Foreign Missions, the little ship is carrying 2,000 high school girls to the natives of Micronesia.—United Press.

CHINA OPPOSES OUTER MONGOLIA'S ENTRY TO U.N.

Lake Success, July 28.—China turned down Outer Mongolia's bid for United Nations membership today with an unprecedented blast which drew a Russian retort that certain Far East parties might like to force a United Nations investigation similar to the case of Greece.

LIBYA WANTS COMPLETE FREEDOM

London, July 28.—A delegation representing the Libyan Political Patriotic Front is expected in London shortly to demand full independence for Libya, it was learned from informed Arab sources today.

The Patriotic Front had already addressed a memorandum to the British Foreign Office rejecting all solutions for Libya which would be short of "complete independence."

The memorandum expressly ordered all United Nations or other trusteeship over the former Italian North African colony.

The Libyan Patriotic Front, whose leader is the famous Sheikh Idris el Senusi, also suggested that a representative of the Arab League, "even if only as an observer," should accompany an inquiry commission of the Big Four, to investigate the wishes of former Italian colonies and suggest a solution about their future.—United Press.

MONTY'S FULL PROGRAMME

Kure, July 28.—Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, will have a crowded programme during his visit to Japan next month.

During a three-day stay in the American zone, beginning on August 5, Viscount Montgomery will lunch with General Douglas MacArthur, meet Allied diplomats, lunch with Lieutenant-General Robert L. Eichelberger of the Eighth Army, review the 1st Cavalry Division and possibly be a luncheon guest of the Tokyo Correspondents' Club.

His two-day visit to the British zone will include a conference with Lieutenant-General H. C. H. Robertson, British occupation forces Commander, and a review of British occupation troops.—Associated Press.

TERRORISTS TO HANG

Jerusalem, July 28.—The High Commissioner, Sir Alan Cunningham, gave 12 hours' notice that the British authorities intended to hang tomorrow the three condemned Irgun Zvai Leumi terrorists who took part in the Acre Prison raid on May 4.

Shortly after Sir Alan's announcement, according to the Exchange Telegraph, in London, Irgun's clandestine radio announced that the two British sergeants held as hostages after being kidnapped on July 12 at Nathanya would be executed at approximately the same hour tomorrow morning.—United Press.

Dock Striko Ends

Brussels, July 28.—The unofficial strike of Antwerp dock workers, which started ten days ago, ended today, when a referendum showed that only 3,407 dockers out of 14,562 were in favour of continuing the stoppage.

Twelve thousand shipping repair workers in Antwerp, who downed tools last Wednesday, demanding a wage increase are still on strike.—Reuter.

Intended To Shoot The King

New York, July 28.—A 23-year-old York labourer told magistrates that he stole a Mauser automatic pistol to "attempt to shoot King George," when he was committed for trial today on a charge of shop-breaking.—Reuter.

Calmly announcing a definite Chinese veto on the Outer Mongolian application, Dr Shu Hsi-hsu charged at a heated meeting of the United Nations Security Council Membership Committee that the Outer Mongolian Republic had carried out a "full-dress invasion with paraphernalia of modern warfare, including aircraft."

In the harshest words China has yet pronounced in the United Nations against a neighbour Dr Hsu said the "armed invasion" of the Chinese province of Sinkiang by the applicant state "has not ended even today."

He said China had cast aside doubts last year and supported the Mongolian Peoples' Republic.

Alexei Kravchenko, Russian participant in the heated exchanges in the Committee last week over Albania, called the Chinese statement "distorted" and "false."

"Provocation Actions"

He said a regiment of Chinese soldiers penetrated about 12 miles into Outer Mongolian territory and was thrown out by Outer Mongolian soldiers, who never crossed the Chinese border. He also declared that the bodies of five Outer Mongolian men who had been tortured were found in the area occupied by the Chinese troops.

"Such provocative actions on the part of Chinese troops and certain incidents are to remind us of similar action on the northern border of Greece," Kravchenko said. "It is possible there are parties in the Far East who would like to repeat what happened in Greece, also to detract the world from the civil war in China and what is going on in China."

"It is possible there are parties in China who would like to create circumstances to make it necessary for an investigation commission."

"The Soviet delegation believes the committee will not consider seriously these distorted accusations," Dr Hsu, who sat smiling as the Russian spoke, said he would reply after studying the text.—Associated Press.

TRADE TALKS BREAK DOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

way the Soviet Government demanded as a condition of agreement," he said.

"In fact... we were prepared to meet the Soviet demand on repayment as to over 60 per cent of all advances, old and new."

"In spite of this, we hope the disappointment is temporary. It remains the wish of His Majesty's Government that there should be large expansion of trade between the two countries. The Secretary for Overseas Trade given every assurance during the talks that this was also the wish of the Soviet Government."

Sir Stafford said the timber agreement was signed as a contract, but on the understanding that it was to be part of the "total deal".

Asked if political considerations were allowed to enter into the negotiations, Sir Stafford replied: "So far as we were concerned, the answer was certainly 'no'."

He told another questioner that under the cereals agreement Britain would have received 1,000,000 tons of grain from the Soviet 1947 harvest and "rather larger figures" from subsequent harvest.—United Press.

WORLD CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Paris, July 28.—The United States cyclist, Alfred Grier, was eliminated by Denmark's George Giesci today, when preliminary heats of the amateur cycling pursuit event were run off in balise-oven heat at the world cycling championships at Paris Parc des Princes stadium.

The best time of the day was obtained by the Frenchman Raymond Guillemet, who beat Vladimir Susel, of Czechoslovakia in five minutes 15.4 seconds for a four kilometre course.

In other heats, the Uruguayan, Attilio Francis, beat Holland's Jack Giesler; Hans Andersen of Denmark beat Britain's T. Godwin; Holland's J. Harmsen beat the Hungarian, Bela Nagy; Fritz Schner of Switzerland beat Panvo Kuisinen of Finland; Charles Ceste of France beat Alfred Mohr of Austria. Arthur Lauf of the United States was eliminated by James Doyle of Ireland; Lull Gillen of Luxembourg beat Ireland's Laurence Lyons; Maurice Blomme of Belgium beat the Austrian, Fritz Bos; Leo Benfanti of Italy beat Karoly Notes of Hungary; Driflin's Charles Marrier beat Rino Zuochelli of Italy; and Marcel Van Beneden of Belgium beat Howard Wong of China.—United Press.



"Let's go into town now and open a charge account."

FORRESTAL'S NEW JOB

Washington, July 28.—James Forrestal, the nation's first Secretary of Defence, today began his historic job of welding the Army, Navy and Air Forces into a single military establishment under the new Armed Forces Unification Law.

The statute provides only a blueprint for the new defence structure. But both Army and Navy officers are confident that the former Navy Secretary's dynamic personality would provide the leadership needed to make it successfully realised.

All the three services are carrying on as usual while Forrestal begins preparations for a sweeping reorganisation. A Navy spokesman said no date has yet been set for his formal oath-taking. The Senate confirmed him for the Cabinet post before it adjourned on Sunday.

The law sets up the Army, Navy and Air Forces as co-equal departments under Forrestal. Each department will have its own Secretary but Forrestal will have Cabinet status.—United Press.

Letters To The Editor

Imitation of The Ostrich

Sir,—Over a fortnight has elapsed since you first gave welcome publicity to the charges for hotels and boarding houses, and it appears that the Government, although concerned has imitated the proverbial ostrich which buried its head in the sand. One would have thought that in a period of a fortnight, Government would have produced some sort of a statement even if only to let us know whether an investigation was being made. In point of fact, a fortnight should be a reasonably long enough period for anyone to satisfy himself that the charges are far too high. There should be no question of Government negotiating with landlords to produce their statement of accounts for June, from which new rates should be arbitrarily fixed, as were the original rates. The proprietors' desires to retain their profits would inevitably preclude negotiations, and any plea by the Government to ignore the hard facts which we have already indicated in previous correspondence speak for themselves, and have drawn no denials from any proprietors.

From figures now in our possession, we are prepared to assert that the proprietor of our hotel can have a monthly profit of approx. \$10,000 on rental alone, and, furthermore, we are prepared to place our calculations before the Government authorities concerned.

Since local Government pays these exorbitant charges in respect of Government employees, their apparent reluctance to reduce them is all the more surprising. The money saved by a decrease would no doubt help to reduce the Budget deficit over the period of a year.

Truly, the wheels of officialdom grind very, very slowly.

In the meantime, copies of your issue in which details of this subject appear, are being forwarded to our Parliamentary representative with a request that they and the detailed facts which we will also supply may be brought to the early notice of the House of Commons.

TWO WELSH DRAINED RESIDENTS.

British Soldiers Kidnapped

Athens, July 28.—Two British soldiers were seized by Greek guerrillas who stopped their lorry between Lamin and Domokos, about 100 miles north of Athens, the Athens news agency stated today.

It was also announced that Greek guerrillas lost 105 killed in an unsuccessful attack against the town of Gavanna, in north-western Greece, in addition to others killed in air attacks, the Ministry of Public Order said.

Concentrations of guerrillas were reported preparing anti-aircraft defences in Mount Kalmakthalan, in northern Greece near the Yugoslav frontier, an Athens news agency said.—Reuter.

Sympathy For Pres. Truman

Washington, July 28.—Heads of foreign nations, including King George VI and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, today sent messages of sympathy to President Truman on the death of his mother.

The White House, announcing receipt of these messages, said many others were sent directly to the President at Grand View and still others were being translated by the State Department.—United Press.

STREET FIGHTING IN BANDUNG

(Continued from Page 1)

In Sumatra, the communiqué added, Republicans were advancing towards the important west coast port of Padang after a clash with a Dutch force with six tanks and three lorries.

An Indonesian army spokesman, broadcasting over the Jogjakarta radio, claimed that the Indonesians had just begun their resistance and that the "underground" movement was growing.

The spokesman declared that it was questionable whether the Dutch could control even the towns they had occupied.

A report that Catalina flying-boats bearing British markings, were seen circling yesterday over the Gadjah sugar factory south of Malang, in southeast Java, was circulated by Antara, Republican news agency, Reuter reported from Singapore.

Whitehall is faced with the need to work out fresh instructions for Sir Alexander Cadogan, Britain's representative on the United Nations Security Council, following the announcement made today in New Delhi by Mr Nehru, Vice-Premier of the Indian Union Government, that India will tomorrow raise at the United Nations the question of the Dutch-Indonesian war, says Reuter's diplomatic correspondent in London.

The official British attitude to the revival of fighting in Indonesia is still that described by Mr Ernest Bevin in the House of Commons on July 23, when he refused to commit himself to the view that the Security Council was the best agency for attempting to check the conflict.

Mr Bevin then said: "We are working on other methods which I think might be more appropriate if they can be found to be practicable."

On the same day, Mr Bevin and Lord Addison, Dominions Secretary, discussed the possibilities of mediation or of reference to the Security Council with Mr John Eassey, Australian High Commissioner in London.

So far, however, neither the British nor the Australian Government has formally disclosed its attitude to a Security Council debate on Indonesia.

The Indian decision will now force a definition of policy in both London and Canberra.—Reuter.

Schoolgirl Visitors Get Lost

Glasgow, July 28.—A party of fourteen girl students from Norway, with their two leaders, figured in a mix-up at Glasgow today.

Scheduled to arrive at the Central Station by the night express from Euston, they were directed in error by another route, and reached Glasgow at Queen Street Station.

Their hosts from the Greenhead Pacific Church Youth Club, in Glasgow, were waiting at the Central Station, and to make matters worse the train was 17 minutes late.

At Queen Street, the visitors sat on their suitcases for about an hour until officials of the Glasgow education authority took charge of them and gave them lunch. This was the first proper meal the students had since leaving their ship at Tilbury, yesterday afternoon.

Just after lunch, their hosts tracked them down at the school where they had been entertained.—Reuter.

OLD MOORE SEES

GENERAL STRIKE IN BRITAIN NEXT YEAR

BY ROBERT MUSEL
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

London, July 28.—They laughed when Old Moore's Almanac said there would be a world crisis—and 18 months later came Munich. They tittered when the venerable volume, founded in 1697 as "Dr Francis Moore's Prophetic Hieroglyphic Engravings," said there would be a Socialist sweep—and a little over a year later the Tories were out in the cold.

Hitler's anchluss with Austria, the general strike of May 3, 1936, ("to the day"), the outbreak of war ("exclusive to readers of Old Moore's"), the abdication of King Edward VIII, and the atom bomb on Japan—Old Moore's has predicted them all.

OILFIELD FIRE BLAMED ON DUTCH

Batavia, July 28.—A Republican communiqué denied any responsibility for firing the Pendopo oilfields and blamed the fires on the Dutch.

"Under Republican management, there was no destruction by first of Socony owners' estates," the communiqué said. "On the contrary, Pendopo was producing petrol and kerosene for domestic consumption."

The communiqué said Dutch military action had as "its real objective" the restoration of "prowler colonial conditions and monopoly of import-export trade between the islands and home trade."

"The plan was to exclude Indonesians and foreigners from this lucrative activity."

According to an official Dutch report, the Dutch Army has occupied these oilfields. From the time of occupation, all responsibility, over these oilfields automatically shifted to the Dutch.—United Press.

Minister's Threat To Resign

Athens, July 28.—Threatening to resign, General Napoléon Zervas, Minister of Public Order, walked out of the Greek cabinet meeting here today during a discussion on the subject of warfare against guerrilla bands. Other ministers were tonight trying to persuade him to stay in office. General Zervas has recently been critical of the Greek army operations, it was disclosed here to-night, and had an open disagreement with the views and plans of the general staff.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAILS

*Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the Ordinary Mail. It must close before 5 p.m. Registered and Parcel Posts will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

Tuesday, July 29
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.
Hankow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.
Amoy (Sea) 3 p.m.
Swatow and Fochow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Bangkok (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.
Singapore, Colombo, Surabaya, Sydney and Auckland (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Japan (ordinary letters and cards only) (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Canton, Kowloon, Chungking & Shanghai (Air) 3.30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 30
Canton (Train) 7 a.m.
Hankow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Shanghai (Sea) 3 p.m.
Amoy (Sea) 3 p.m.
Swatow, Saigon & Bangkok (Sea) 11 a.m.
Canton (Train) 2 p.m.
Hankow (Sea) 3 p.m.
Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.
Macao, Fuzhou & Shekchi (Sea) 4 p.m.
Kanton (Sea) 4 p.m.
Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bora, Ceylon, Johannesburg, Augusta, Melbourne & London (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Manila (Sea) (Air) 3.30 p.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, Canton, Luchow and Kuning (Air) 3.30 p.m.

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PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

Thus, ye of little faith, hearken to what Old Moore alleges is in store for the world in 1948, which it terms "The Year of Realism." Hearken—and clean out the storm cellars. Hard times are coming.

The big tip for Britain from the Old Moore's forecast is a national strike in the latter part of February. Troops may have to be called out, says the Almanac. But New York and other parts of the United States will not have much time to worry about their wartime ally, for they will be experiencing a "wave of crime and arson."

Washington will be involved in "bitter feelings" resulting from exports and international loans. There is one ray of hope—Moscow will show "a more constructive and peaceful trend in both domestic and international spheres."

All that is for the winter quarter. Comes the spring—and the "intense" winter clashes in India will resolve through the influence of the fabulous Princes. Great Britain and Elre will have political trouble over trade extension. Conditions in France will be "rather confused" and there will be trouble over the Saar mines.

A Good Summer

Looks like a good summer though, for the most important item. Old Moore detects in the "marriages" of people in high position making front page news. Autumn will witness changes in the British Cabinet, temporary trouble, and bomb incidents. In France, "controversial conditions in Belgium regarding royalty" but partial solution of the Palestine problem.

Old Moore's editor is nothing if not specific. He says "St. Leger Stakes" in September 1948, will be won by the favourite after an attempt has been made to "nobble" or tamper with him. He cites August 9 as the date of an attempt on the life of the Japanese Mikado, and asserts that British and American troops will be called out the same month. On August 10 a death will plunge Britain into mourning—he says.

One last item before Old Moore's for 1948 goes the way of other almanacs—the will be a stock market boom in May.—United Press.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW Hongkong broadcasting on a frequency of 940 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m.—and 6.30 to 11 p.m.—and also on 5.5 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 7.30 to 8.30 and 9.15 to 11 p.m.

6.30 B.B.C. Transcription Service: "The Black Abbot" 7.00 Light Variety: 7.15 Studio: Jazz Piano Recital by Kathleen Bell 7.30 A Night at the Ballet: 8 London Relay: World News 8.30 London Relay: Home News from Britain: 9.15 Studio: Vocal Recital by Molly Birka (Mezzo Soprano) with Piano accompaniment by Betty Brown: 9.50 Piano Interlude: 10.00 "The Mikado" An Abridged version of Gilbert & Sullivan's Popular Opera. Columbia Light Opera Company: 9.15 Studio: Radio Magazine Produced by Clifford Davies. A Hongkong Stage Club Production: 10 London Relay: News: 10.10 Weather Report: 10.11 Relay of the Dance Orchestra from the Paramount Ballroom: 11 Close down.

NOTICE

Advertisers are requested to note that no advertisements (with the exception of urgent notices) will be accepted between the hours of 12.30 noon, Saturdays, and 9 a.m. on Mondays.

From and including Mondays to Fridays, copy for the following days must be submitted not later than 4 p.m.

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